



Immediate Opening for Capital Trial Project Director

Texas Defender Service (TDS) seeks an experienced attorney with outstanding legal skills, proven leadership ability and a demonstrated commitment to indigent defense to lead TDS' successful Capital Trial Project team. The Capital Trial Project director leads a team of attorneys and mitigation specialists in strategic work to decrease death sentences and improve the quality of capital defense in Texas. As a result of the Capital Trial Project's work since 2000, new death sentences in Texas have dropped from a high of 48 in 1999 to 3 thus far in 2015.

TDS is a private, non-profit organization whose mission is to improve the Texas criminal justice system by reducing unfair use of the death penalty and by implementing an effective indigent defense system. The Capital Trial Project tracks all death-eligible cases in Texas, monitors appointment of counsel, and trains, consults with and provides resources for attorneys representing death-eligible defendants.

The ideal candidate for this position: possesses strong leadership skills; has significant capital trial experience; has excellent legal research and writing skills; is skilled in oral advocacy; can lead in a team-based environment; is highly organized; and works effectively under pressure. The ideal candidate also is knowledgeable about the latest developments in criminal law and has experience training other attorneys.

Given the nature of the work, the successful candidate should expect to work some evenings, weekends and holidays. Travel throughout Texas is required. Applicants must be eligible for licensure to practice law in Texas and, if hired, must become licensed in Texas. Fluency in Spanish is a plus.

This is a full-time position and the attorney hired may choose to live in Austin or Houston. Salary will be based on experience. The position is open until filled.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, three references and a writing sample by U.S. mail or e-mail to:

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